Carolina Country

December 1980

World's Largest Living Christmas Tree
See Story, Page 19

Viewpoint

Relief For Political Indigestion

The shrillness of campaign rhetoric is finally fading from our ears.

The media are finally realizing that we can, somehow, get by without hourly analysis offering a political version of that old comic routine, "Who's On First?"

Pundits Still Pontificate

The pundits cling tenaciously to political pontification —now taking the form of verbal where-do-we-go-from-here head-scratching— but even they are beginning to acknowledge that there is, indeed, another whole world out there that just might be worth examining.

Coffee-break conversationalists have discovered that thoughtful appraisal of the line-up for post-season football bowls can be just as intriguing as any my-candidate-is-better-than-your-candidate exchange.

Meanwhile, advertising is proving as resilient as ever, having smoothly traded slickly-packaged candidates trying to out-sincere one another for slickly-packaged pitches extolling the virtues of shopping early —and often— for the holiday season.

Oh, What A Relief It Is!

To borrow a phrase from one of the advertising's most popular campaigns: Oh, what a relief it is!

The phrase may be especially appropriate, for the Nov. 4 election could well have served as a kind of giant national dose of "Plop-Plop, Fizz-Fizz" for a bad case of political indigestion.

Indeed, wherever we might have aligned ourselves in one of those coffee-break exchanges —or in the voting booth— we can now find particular empathy for the character in the old joke who enjoyed hitting himself in the head "because it feels so good when it stops hurting."

We may also find that this remedy features a "special formula" that no lady-in-the-supermarket commercial would dare to tout—for its long-term effectiveness is uncertain.

Although final testing is just now getting under way, the formula appears to work less on the body than on the soul.

It's a combination of ingredients: anticipation of a new approach to government and renewed hope for an improving American economy.

Reports suggest that the formula is already at work, particularly along the financial arteries, but this response could be part of a temporary "honeymoon syndrome."

In any event, the patient's condition will be monitored closely in the months ahead.

A Needed Respite

The medication has brought a needed respite from the ravages of this debilitating virus, but it offers no money-back guarantee.

Indeed, a return to the dietary excesses of the past could soon send the patient in search of yet another way to spell relief —for too many jellybeans can cause just as much damage as too many peanuts.

The Passing Scene

This is a tongue-in-cheek exercise in political science which has appeared in various publications. It's an attempt to define the kinds of governments which actually exist in the world today. This is an elementary examination, using an elementary common denominator — a farmer and his two cows. The definitions follow:

SOCIALISM: The government allows the farmer to keep both cows but tells him to whom to sell the milk and at what price.

COMMUNISM: The government takes one of the farmer's cows and shoots the other.

DICTATORSHIP: The government takes both cows and shoots the farmer.

BUREAUCRACY: The government establishes guidelines which require the farmer to sell one cow and pour the milk from the other on the ground.

FREE ENTERPRISE: On his own, the farmer sells one of his cows. He then buys a bull and raises a herd.

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Four New Employees Join Statewide EMC Organization

Two engineers, an accountant and a safety specialist have joined the staff of the statewide organization of North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations, headquartered in Raleigh.

The safety specialist is Eugene (Nick) Nichols of Lumberton, who moves to the N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives (N.C. AEC) from a line foreman's post with Lumbee River EMC, Red Springs.

The New York native will conduct job training and safety seminars at 10 EMCs as one of three N.C. AEC regional job training and safety specialists.

Nichols, his wife and two children will continue to live in Lumberton.

The accountant and the two engineers become part of a growing staff for N.C. EMC, the statewide organization's power supply operation, as it gears up to acquire its own generating and transmission facilities.

Eugene Waters, a Certified Public Accountant, joins the corporation as senior accountant. A Plymouth native, he previously worked for Price Waterhouse, Columbia Bank for Cooperatives and a Kentucky coal-mining company.

The UNC-CH graduate is married to the former Jane Keel of Plymouth. They have two children.

Don Hornak, a veteran of 20 years of experience in electric engineering, is N.C. EMC's first director of planning.

A University of Florida graduate, he has worked for the Florida Power Cooperative and the engineering consultant firm of R. W. Beck and Associates in Orlando, Fla.

He and his wife have four children.

Also joining N.C. EMC's engineering staff is Richard Moody, a Charlotte native who previously worked as a planning engineer for Virginia Electric and Power Co.

He has a degree in electrical engineering from N.C. State University and a master's in business administration from George Washington University.

Nichols

Waters

Hornak

Moody

Commentary

Nuclear Safest Power Source Available

"This newspaper came late to the conviction. It, too, was beset about nuclear safety. Many people are. But the overriding fact is that we must have power to turn our lathes, heat our hospitals and light their operating rooms and do a multitude of other jobs. There is no absolutely safe power source now available, but nuclear power has a better safety record than most."

— The Durham Morning Herald

Solar Switch Won't Come "Anytime Soon"

"It's all very good to talk about switching from dirty or dangerous fossil and nuclear fuels to clean, safe, solar energy but it's not going to happen anytime soon. "Solar technologies will make only a modest contribution over the next three decades. Coal and nuclear power are the only large-scale replacements for oil and gas for the immediate future. These are the sobering conclusions of the National Academy of Sciences, the nation's most prestigious scientific organization. Some 350 experts contributed to the massive report. If their findings are correct, the claims of most solar enthusiasts are wildly exaggerated and even in the Carter Administration solar energy goals are unrealistic."

—The New York Times

Cover Features Wilmington's Famous Old Christmas Tree

For the past half-century, the Christmas season in North Carolina has been marked by the warmth and color of the famous "world's largest Christmas tree" in Wilmington.

The tree is traditionally lighted nightly from the first week of December through the end of the month. The editor made this photo of the tree in 1979.

For more details about the tree, see story on Page 19.

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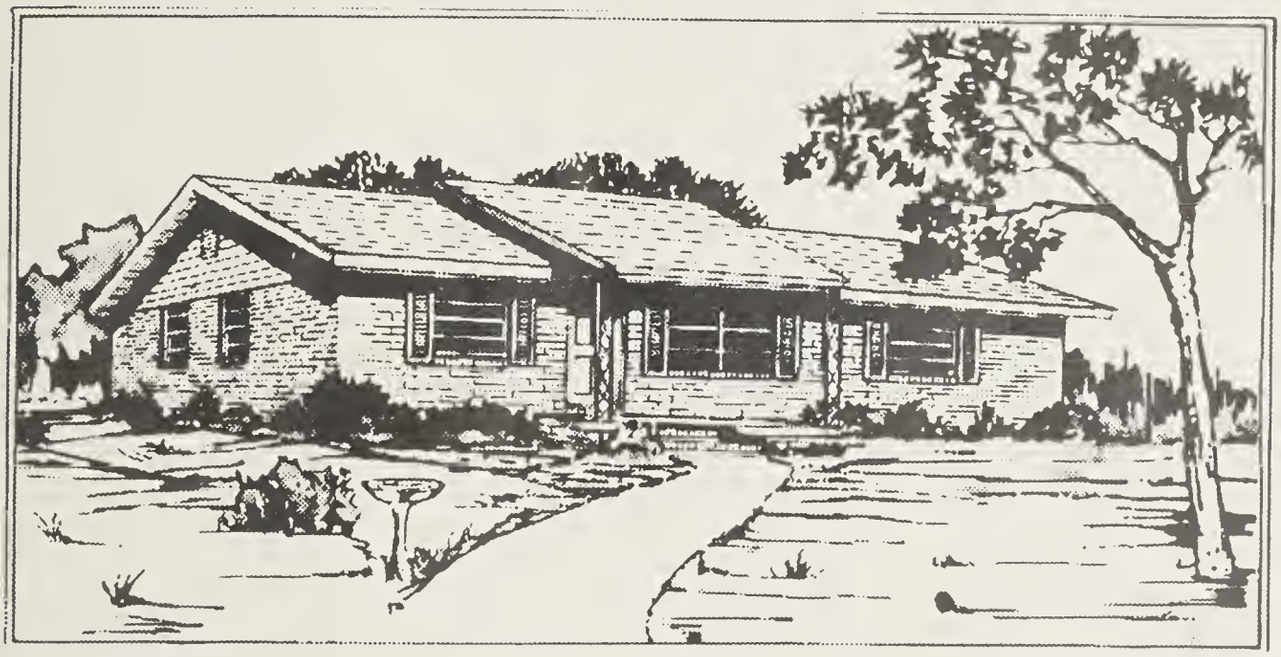

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Restaurants To Get Energy-Saving Aid

North Carolina restaurant owners can now receive special help from the State Energy Division in conserving energy and reducing their utility costs, according to James E. Gibson, division director.

The service, consisting of general "walk-thru" energy surveys, will be provided by the division's Energy Extension Service in cooperation with the Industrial Extension Service of North Carolina State University.

The surveys will be offered at no cost to the restaurants, Gibson said, noting that restaurants are a natural choice for this kind of assistance because they are high energy users and their potential for savings is substantial.

Selected restaurants will be offered the opportunity to receive added technical assistance under demonstration projects. Documented energy savings from these projects will then be made available to the food service industry.

For additional information, call or write the Industrial Extension Service, NCSU, P.O. Box 5506, Raleigh, N.C. 27650, Phone: 737-2356; or the N.C. Restaurant Association, P.O. Box 6528, Raleigh, N.C. 27628, Phone: 732-6022.

Fuel Charges Spread Over Eight Months

As a result of a decision by the North Carolina Utilities Commission, retail consumers of Carolina Power and Light Co. will have eight months in which to cover the extra fuel cost stemming from shutdowns of two nuclear power plants.

Meanwhile, the consumer-members of the 18 CP&L-served Electric Membership Corporations are expected to cover most of these sharply higher costs by year's end.

The commission approved all of CP&L's proposed $58 million fuel cost adjustment, but spread the charges over the period from December through July, 1981. Such charges are usually established for a four-month period following a review of utilities' actual fuel costs.

Much of the high fuel costs resulted from last summer's shutdown of two CP&L nuclear plants for refueling and modifications required by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. While those plants were down, extremely hot weather pushed the utility's demand to record levels and forced CP&L to buy peak-period power from other companies at premium rates.

When the costs were calculated, the 18 EMCs affected found themselves facing an increase in fuel costs of about 30 percent for September and October.

When the retail customers' share of these higher fuel costs were presented to the State Utilities Commission for review, the agency followed the recommendation of its Public Staff and ordered the charges spread over the eight-month period.

Two Editorials Cited In Communicators' Contests

Two editorials by *Carolina Country* Editor Owen Bishop have won honors in two separate writing contests for business communicators.

One of them won first place in a competition sponsored by the Carolinas Association of Business Communicators (CABC) and an award of merit in a contest sponsored by District II of the International Association of Business Communicators. The district contest was open to professional communicators from 10 Southern states and Puerto Rico. The editorial, titled "A Bid To Save 'Hometown' Newspapers," appeared in the June issue of the magazine.

In addition, an editorial from the January issue, titled "Energy Conservation's Catch-22," won third place in the CABC contest.

Directors Elected At Four EMCs

Thirteen incumbents and one newcomer have been elected to the Boards of Directors of four North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations during recent EMC annual meetings:

- **Rutherford EMC,** Forest City — Re-elected were W. L. Plonk of Rt. 1, Kings Mountain; H. Frank Queen of Rt. 1, Morganton and Joseph N. Quinn of Rt. 3, Marion.
- **Davidson EMC,** Lexington — Re-elected were Hassel Gann of Rt. 1, Mayodan; Jack J. Myers of Rt. 15, Lexington and Mack Shoaf of Rt. 5, Winston-Salem.
- **Four County EMC,** Burgaw — Re-elected were J. J. Malpass of Rt. 2, Burgaw; C. T. Cain of Rt. 1, White Oak; William A. Settlemeyer of Rt. 1 Riegelwood and James Hollingsworth of Rt. 1, Willard.
- **Tri-County EMC,** Goldsboro — Re-elected were Leslie J. Bell of Rt. 2, Mt. Olive; Howard A. Hardy of Rt. 4, Kinston and Andrew I. Rowe of Rt. 2, Pikeville. A newcomer elected to the board was W. L. Scott Jr. of Rt. 6, Goldsboro.

Federal Funds Awarded For Watauga Hydro Study

The U.S. Department of Energy has awarded a $21,416 grant for a study of 17 small streams in Watauga County to determine their potential for generating hydroelectric power using small power plants.

The project envisions tapping the streams' water power for energy without using dams, according to Dr. Harvard Ayers, professor of anthropology at Appalachian State University and coordinator of the project.

"Dams are expensive, both in dollars and in degradation of the ecology," he said. "The point of this project is to show you don't need them."

As part of the project, a

demonstration generator will be built at the Valle Crucis school on Craborchard Creek. Instead of a dam, the generator will use water diverted through pipe to turn the generator and produce electricity.

The generator, which will cost $8,000 to $10,000 to build, will be capable of providing 7,500 kilowatt hours of power a month.

The project is a joint effort of ASU's earth studies program, the Blue Ridge Group of Sierra Club and Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir.

State Grange Presents Various Annual Awards

Several individuals and organizations were honored recently for their service to rural North Carolina by the N.C. State Grange.

Odell Whittington of the Wilkes County Community of Miller's Creek was named Granger of the Year, while the man and woman of the year awards went to Gladys Gill Currin, a retired teacher at Raleigh's Governor Morehead School, and Forest Bernard Johnson of Cherokee County.

The Edith Ferguson Memorial Award went to Robert and Mary Elizabeth Wood of Raleigh in recognition of their devotion to the Grange, to youth and adult education and to community development. Wood is assistant director of the N.C. Agriculture Foundation at N.C. State University.

Organizations honored were Friendship Methodist Church in Concord, Church of the Year; Davidson County's Arcadia-Reedy Creek-Hampton Fire Department, Rural Fire Department of the Year and Sampson County's Westbrook Grange No.1016, Mrs. Maxton Bass, master, Grange of the Year.

UNC-G Building Listed As National Historic Site

The Julius I. Foust Building, the only remaining structure at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro which dates back to the institution's opening 88 years ago, has been selected for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The four-story, brick structure has been in constant use since the institution opened as the State Normal and Industrial School on Oct. 5, 1892. It served as the major administration building until 1975, when some of the administration offices were moved to a new building.

The Foust Building's designation as an historic site resulted from the efforts of UNC-G alumni and administrative officials over the past seven years.

NCSU Vet School Set To Open Next Fall

Construction is moving along on schedule for the new School of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, and its main building is expected to be ready for occupancy by the time school opens next fall, according to Dean Terrence M. Curtin.

Meanwhile, the admissions committee has begun interviewing applicants for the new school, which will open with an initial enrollment of 40 students, Dean Curtin said, in a recent report to the NCSU Veterinary Medical Foundation.

The $32 million facility is under construction on Hillsborough Street near the State Fairgrounds.

Bids on its Phase Four, the fourth and final phase of a five-year construction schedule, are scheduled for opening before year's end, the dean said.

Home Folks

Dr. Leo F. Hawkins, a human development specialist with the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, has been named winner of the 1980 Sperry Award by the N.C. Family Life Council. Hawkins was cited for his educational programs in marriage enrichment, family communications and parent education. . . .**Janice E. Lindley** of Chatham County has been named the first recipient of the North Carolina Young Farm Woman of the Year Award, sponsored by the Raleigh *News and Observer* and the *Charlotte Observer*. Ms. Lindley, a 1977 N.C. State University animal science graduate, operates a dairy farm with 72 Holstein dairy cattle. . . **Derl H. Hinson**, general manager of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation, Red Springs, has been listed in the 1980 edition of *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*. Hinson, who has been manager at Lumbee River since 1974, is active in local civic and community affairs, and serves on the boards of directors of all three corporations comprising the EMC's statewide organization. . . .**Erline M. Walker** of Raleigh, Wake County extension home economist, has been awarded the National Association of Extension Home Economics Distinguished Service Award. . . **Nancy Chase** of Wayne County has been named the outstanding area board member by the N.C. Mental Health Centers Association. . . .**William T. Crisp,** an attorney who represents electric co-ops and related organizations across the country, presented a paper to the first Congress of the Electric Cooperatives of the Americas in Porta Alegra, Brazil. . . **Robert M. Francis** of Chowan County has been named North Carolina's 1980 Tree Farmer of the Year. Francis, who grows loblolly pines on a 187-acre farm, was selected for the honor by the N.C. Forestry Association. . . **Harold Trogden,** a senior at South Johnson High School in Four Oaks, was first runner-up in the 1980 National Bricklaying Championship. The 18-year-old Trogden won the honor in the 12th annual U.S. Skill Olympics Bricklaying Contest in Atlanta. He is the son of Mrs. Nancy Trogden of Smithfield.

John Stackhouse: "Just A Catalyst Through Which The Lord Has Worked"

"The Lord just laid this thing on my head, and I just couldn't get rid of it," said John Stackhouse of Goldsboro, recalling his inspiration to organize support for North Carolina's first full-fledged burn center.

Stackhouse, an electrical contractor, came to realize that the state had no such center more than a decade ago when some of his employees needed treatment for severe burns.

John Stackhouse at the ground-breaking ceremonies for the N.C. Jaycee Burn Center.

He saw that many burn patients all over the country were being "put into hospitals to die" because of inadequate facilities and poorly-prepared medical personnel.

Stackhouse became concerned about the need for such a center to serve Tar Heel patients — and his concern was reflected in his prayers.

A deeply religious man, he soon began asking others to join him in those prayers.

"We started this whole thing in prayer meetings," he explained. "I would ask groups to pray with me. Everywhere I went where I'd run into prayer groups, I'd get them to pray for it."

Before long, Stackhouse came to feel that God was responding — by calling on him to act.

"It was just something I couldn't help but do. It was a Christian responsibility."

In carrying out that responsibility, he spent untold hours traveling across the state — talking to state officials and medical experts.

Eventually, plans began to take shape for building a burn center facility in Chapel Hill as part of N.C. Memorial Hospital.

Stackhouse pledged $50,000 as the first contribution toward establishing the center.

That was in 1972. Since then, the fund-raising center has involved thousands of people throughout the state.

Stackhouse said serious burns are "a neglected part of medicine," but when people become aware of that fact, they're usually eager to help.

"This has been a thing of the people in this state. It's a grassroots effort if there ever was one."

Getting the center established and ready to open its doors is easily "the most satisfying thing I've ever done," he said.

However, he'd prefer to stay out of the limelight.

"The less that's said about me, the better. I'm just a catalyst through which the Lord has worked."

And it's a role he plans to continue playing—this time as part of the effort to raise an endowment for the center.

'I've just got to keep on," he said.

(A story on the effort to raise money for the endowment appears on page 10)

Burn Center:

The North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center, which was dedicated Nov. 23, is expected to be "one of the finest burn units in the world" according to Dr. Roger Salisbury, center director.

Occupying the fifth floor of the new Support Tower at North Carolina Memorial Hospital, the center is a unique critical care facility that's the product of the diverse fund-raising efforts of Tar Heels over the past eight years.

Since the first contribution toward the center was made in 1972, individuals, civic clubs, industries, fire departments, church groups and service clubs across the state have given more than $1.5 million to establish the facility.

The N.C. Jaycees organization was the first to begin fund raising efforts with a project to sell jelly in 1974. That project raised $100,000 during its first year. Since then, the Jaycees have maintained the jelly sales and have pledged continuing support for the Burn Center.

The 18,000-square-foot facility, one of only 14 burn centers in the U.S., will feature 23 beds. It will house sophisticated therapy and monitoring equipment, a recovery room, a kitchen to supply the unique dietary needs of burn patients, diagnostic and research laboratories, mobile X-ray equipment, adult patients' lounges and children's playrooms, a chapel for patients and their families, a skin bank and even a private elevator to an

FAR LEFT - Dr. Roger Salisbury, director of the new North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center in Chapel Hill, and Nancy Newman, the center's head nurse, savor a moment of joy with a tiny patient in the original burn unit of N.C. Memorial Hospital. LEFT — A critically ill patient receives intensive care in that six-bed unit. The new Burn Center features 23 beds and greatly expanded facilities.

One of the World's "Finest"

operating room three floors below.

The Burn Center has come a long way since Dr. A. Griswold Bevin drew up the first proposal for the center in 1971. Bevin, associate professor and chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the UNC-CH School of Medicine, was concerned that the small, six-bed burn unit then in the hospital was too limited in its space and capabilities.

"And," he said back then, "the truth is that the people (of North Carolina) expect much more than we can deliver. So we are in a constant up-hill fight. My guess is that most people in this state don't even know that North Carolina is without a burn center."

Judging by their enthusiasm and support today, most of the people of North Carolina now know about the "burn center in Chapel Hill" and its promised expertise.

"The Burn Center is really a product of the dream of the people of North Carolina," said Dr. Salisbury. "I am impressed by their awareness of the need to do more for burn patients."

He said he thinks many people support a burn care facility because of their exposure to burn injuries and maybe even their fear of being burned.

"This is not some esoteric disease. A burn is something everyone can understand and has had experience with. And I think most of us would choose to face physical danger rather than months of painful recovery, frightened by the knowledge that even if we were lucky enough to be cared for in a burn center, we still might never be rehabilitated."

Although the initial challenge in burn care is keeping a patient alive, treatment in the N.C. Jaycee Burn Center will not stop there. The ultimate goal of its burn care is to help patients reach both physical and emotional rehabilitation —since many times the most devastating effects of burns remain long after the physical wounds have healed.

The center will depend on the skills of occupational and physical therapists, social workers, play therapists, child psychiatrists, chaplains, and insurance representatives to help prepare patients for their future.

The "team" approach helps shorten the convalescent period and assists patients in returning to work or school as soon as possible, Salisbury said.

"We are often proud of ourselves for just getting people out of the hospital alive, but an unacceptably high percentage of burned people who return home are never able to go back to work. That is why we stress reconstructive surgery and rehabilitation to help patients get back into society."

The Burn Center's clinical and laboratory research efforts are already seeking better ways of preventing burns in North Carolina and of treating burned patients. Clinical research has concentrated on biologic dressings, artificial skin substitutes and smoke inhalation.

Dr. Albert Banes, staff biochemist, is exploring ways to prevent burn wound infection, speed up the healing process and minimize scarring.

N.C. Memorial's skin bank, the only one in the state, maintains a supply of frozen human skin to be used as temporary dressings for burn wounds. Thin layers of skin help fight infection, speed healing and reduce pain.

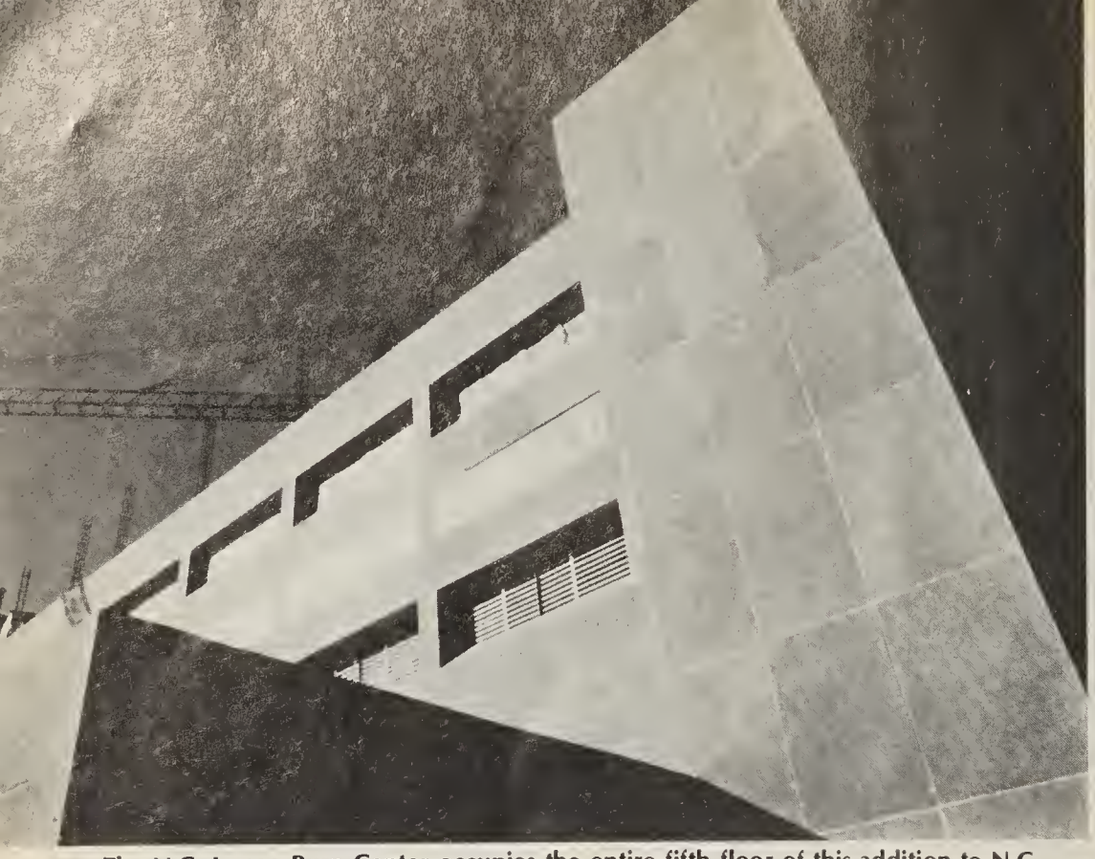
The Burn Center also serves as a training center for burn care specialists in the state, around the country and from other parts of the world.

A three-week course in burn care is offered to intensive care nurses from other North Carolina hospitals.

Nurses, therapists and other burn care specialists teach burn management to rescue squads and emergency room personnel — the people who are usually the first to help burn victims.

A burn fellowship program is offered to young physicians who want advanced specialty training in plastic surgery and burn care management.

Under a special exchange program set up between the UNC-CH School of Medicine and the University of Alexandria, members of the burn care team are sharing their knowledge with the professionals in Egypt, where burn care is far below modern American standards.



The N.C. Jaycee Burn Center occupies the entire fifth floor of this addition to N.C. Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Fund-Raising Effort Now Seeks $5 Million Endowment

Although the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center is now a brick-and-mortar reality in Chapel Hill, the fund-raising effort which built it is far from over.

"Our goal now is to raise an endowment of $5 million to support the center," said Wilson attorney Walter Hinson, chairman of the Burn Center Committee, which is leading the fund-raising appeal.

Walter Hinson

"We're well on our way now," Hinson said. "And, we hope the center's dedication will be a shot-in-the arm for the fund-raising activities. It's easier to raise money when people can actually see the facility."

Co-chairman of the committee is John Stackhouse of Goldsboro, who was instrumental in getting plans started for the center.

The committee, which acts as an advisory group on plans for the center and its operations, has members representing various groups with a particular interest in the Burn Center, including the N.C. Jaycees.

Representing the Jaycees are James Farmer and Jeff Beddard of Wilson; and John Lowery of Lincolnton, state Jaycee president.

Representing N.C. Memorial Hospital are Eric Munson, general director, and John Stokes, the hospital's public affairs director.

Representing the N.C. Medical Foundation, Inc., which offers administrative support for the fund-raising activities, are Emory S. Hunt and Charles M. Shaffer.

Representing the Burn Center staff are Pat Jordan and Dr. Roger Salisbury, director.

Representing the UNC-CH School of Medicine is the school's dean, Dr. Stuart Bondurant.

Other members are Jane Armfield, Howard Holderness and Louis Stephens, all of Greensboro; Oliver Rowe and William T. Harris, both of Charlotte; Joseph M. Bryan of Southern Pines; John Strickland of Goldsboro and Hector McLean of Lumberton.

Contributions to the endowment should be directed to the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center, in care of Emory S. Hunt, N.C. Medical Foundation, Inc., 229 MacNider Building, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514.

Chasing Dad By Candace Flynt. Dial Press, New York. 274 pages. $9.95.

Greensboro native Candace Flynt didn't choose North Carolina's beautiful people to write about, but she certainly breathed life into the rather motley array of characters she selected for her first novel.

Merle Mitchell is a man with problems, mostly self-inflicted. He was once a pretty good carpenter until his drinking, womanizing and petty jealousies started him on a downhill skid.

When his oldest son, Jay, hangs himself from a pine tree near Ft. Benning, Ga., Merle takes it hard, — and takes it out on his wife Audrey and their son, Craig.

Audrey and Craig are having their own problems coping with Jay's unexpected death. Audrey has bills to pay and a household to maintain while Merle devotes himself to his grief.

Craig, at 14, is having enough trouble just growing up, but trying to grow up quickly enough to fill the void left by his half-brother makes it doubly hard.

Jay's wife, Melissa, and young daughter, Jenny, seem less affected by the suicide than the family back in Durham, until Merle shows up in Georgia.

Craig hitchhikes after his father, misses him, but discovers some of the reasons for Jay's death.

Chasing Dad is a story of people who tend to cope with life on a day-to-day basis, meeting whatever bodily needs happen to arise, cursing fate for dealing them a short hand, and always hoping to find a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, as long as they don't have to walk far to get to it.

Reading about them, you feel that you know them well and empathize even as you disapprove. You pull for them to come through their troubled times and rejoice at every small triumph. It's not a pretty story, but it is a compelling and believable one, with flashes of humor.

Candace Flynt's talents as a writer have been previously proven in her award-winning short stories. In this first novel she also proves that she can sustain the challenge of a longer work.

—Jean McCamy

Smithsonian Seminars Planned

The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., a collection of some of the most famous museums in the world, will become a classroom and laboratory for 32 Tar Heel rural youth in the spring of 1981.

The North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, in conjunction with the Smithsonian, is sponsoring two special seminars for academically-superior students to be held at the Smithsonian.

Sixteen high school juniors and seniors will attend each seminar, and will be selected in regional judging in January.

The program, the second series of its kind conducted by N.C. AEC in recent years, is made possible with the aid of a $16,000 grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation. The association provides in-kind contributions to match the Reynolds grant.

Each seminar involves a four-day, all-expense-paid residence in Washington during which the students will receive intensive, college-level instruction by Smithsonian scholars. These instructors will be assisted by members of professional organizations, universities and performing arts organizations in Washington.

Seminar participants will also have the opportunity to visit other museums in the Smithsonian complex, visit government buildings and tour the lighted monuments at night. An evening will be spent attending a performance at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and dinners will be at a variety of Washington restaurants.

The two seminars are entitled "Inventiveness: The Social Context" and "The Quest for Beauty."

"Inventiveness: The Social Context" will explore the history of science and technology from the perspective of artifacts found primarily in the National Museum of History and Technology but also in the National Air and Space Museum.

Disciplines to be included in this seminar include history, mathematics, science and engineering.

"The Quest for Beauty" concerns the theory that all human civilizations show some concern with beauty in all of its manifestations. Mathematicians and physicists, for example, may find as much satisfaction in the beauty of an equation or the formation of a principle as a painter or sculptor does in another medium. In examining the aesthetics of human life, the students will study in the areas of architecture, art, music, film, mathematics and physics.

To be eligible to compete to participate in one of the seminars, students must meet the following criteria:

1. High school senior or exceptional junior
2. Scholastic average of 90 or above
3. Exceptional talent or interest in the disciplines listed for a particular seminar
4. Demonstration of the qualities of leadership, maturity and responsibility
5. Applicant's family must be a member of a rural electric cooperative

If a student meets these criteria, and would like to apply, application forms may be obtained by writing to: **SYMPOSIA, N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.**

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To Meet Federal Requirements

EMCs Developing Policies On Backyard Systems

Only a handful of rural electric co-op consumers turned out for a recent series of public hearings designed to assist Tar Heel Electric Membership Corporations in developing policies governing home-grown power systems.

The hearings, held at four locations across the state, were chaired by Charles Wilson, administrator of the North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority.

Under new federal regulations, all of the nation's electric suppliers must hold public hearings prior to developing plans for buying excess power from consumers' small-scale generating facilities, such as hydro or wind generation projects, Wilson explained.

Policies Due In March

The regulations require electric utilities to establish procedures and appropriate rates for buying power from these facilities, if they meet established standards.

The plans must be completed by March 19, 1981.

Meanwhile, questions of safety, power quality, power line interconnections and legal ramifications must be resolved.

"I personally believe there's a lot of potential in small power projects of this kind," said Wilson, whose agency has legislative authority to assist the EMCs with the implementation of the National Energy Act.

"It's our hope that we can help guide the co-ops in meeting the federal requirements in such a way that their policies will benefit the consumers as much as possible," he added.

Model Policy Envisioned

He said North Carolina EMC, the statewide power supply organization serving the state's electric co-ops, may develop a model policy which could then be adapted by the local EMCs to meet any special circumstances they might face.

"However, I don't think it's realistic to expect all 28 EMCs in the state to pay for this power at the same rate because their principal power supply comes from four private power companies, all of which have different rates. We just hope they can all follow the same methods in setting those rates."

Four Co-Op Managers On Policy Committee

Four EMC managers from across the state comprise the N.C. EMC committee which is overseeing the development of policy guidelines on consumers' small power projects.

They represent the service areas of the four private power companies, which provide power to the EMCs at bulk rates.

They are Donald Rice, Crescent EMC, Statesville, representing the Duke Power Co. territory; Alvin Morton, Jones-Onslow EMC, Jacksonville, representing the Carolina Power and Light Co. territory; Edward E. Brown Jr., Albemarle EMC, Hertford, representing the Virginia Electric and Power Co. area and John Browning, Haywood EMC, Waynesville, representing the Nantahala Power Co. area.

Wilson pointed out that consumers who're interested in developing one of these projects "ought to talk to their power supplier first, for their own good.

"The EMCs, for example, can help consumers in selecting the proper sites and equipment so they'll end up with an operating system than can be safely interconnected with the existing facilities. Otherwise, they may end up building a turkey of a project that's of no value to anyone."

For additional infomation about the plans for these policies, consumers may write to Wilson at the N.C. REA office, 430 N. Salisbury St., Dobbs Building, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

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NORTH CAROLINA

1981 calendar photography by James P. Valentine

A work of art and a perfect gift, this 1981 calendar is a magnificent tribute to the natural beauty of North Carolina. The photographer, James Valentine, is the co-author of the highly acclaimed new book *North Carolina*. Valentine is a sensitive and perceptive photographer whose work is of breath-taking quality.

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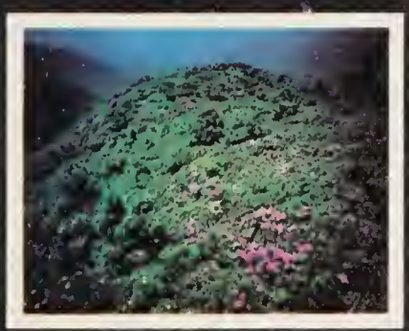

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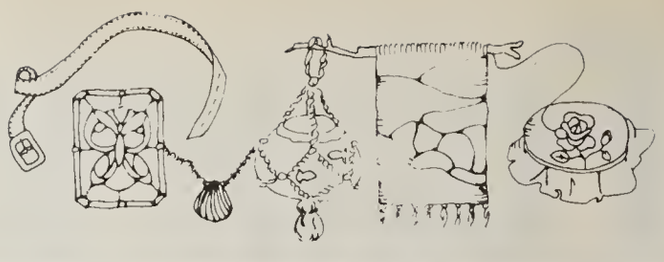

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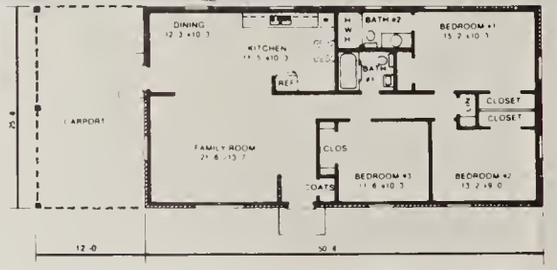

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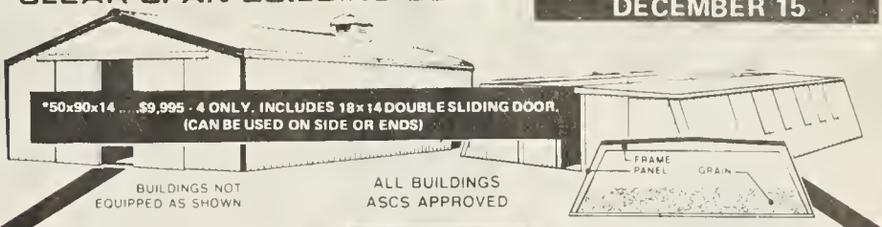

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Country Kitchen

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

What a perfect breakfast for Christmas morning! This delightful combination of bacon, eggs, bread and cheese (all the ingredients for a full, nutritious breakfast) can be prepared on Christmas Eve, and left in the refrigerator overnight. The next morning, all you have to do is put it in the oven to cook while your family opens their Christmas gifts. And it is delicious, especially with a serving of your favorite fresh fruit or juice.

COUNTRY KITCHEN RECIPE

Submitted by Mrs. Ruth U. Wheeler of Durham

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

7 slices white bread (regular, not thin)
2 pkg. (4 oz. each) shredded cheddar cheese
6 eggs
3 C. milk
½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper
1 tsp. mustard
3 strips bacon, cut in half

Trim crust from bread and crumble the bread. Mix bread and cheese and spread in bottom of greased 7½ x 12½ baking dish. Beat eggs and milk together and stir in salt, pepper and mustard. Put this over bread and cheese. Lay bacon on top. Refrigerate overnight. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees from 50-55 minutes. Remove from oven just after everyone sits down at the table.

If you would like to share a recipe with this column, send it to: CAROLINA COUNTRY, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611. We pay $5. for published recipes and present each monthly winner a set of 50 recipe cards with the winning recipe printed on them.

Build Your Own "Instant Antique"

In this nostalgia-mad age, you'll find similar-looking hall trees selling for up to $400 in antique shops. Now you can build this 'instant antique' for a-round $50.

Basically this project involves only a few week-ends of work. No router is required for that fancy ornamentation... we got ours ready-made at a do-it-yourself center and just glued it on. The plywood seat opens up to provide storage space and can be covered with a cushion or simply stained to match. A complete materials list and many step-by-step instructions and pictures guide the amateur woodworker all the way.

To obtain Hall Tree Pattern #592, send $2.50. Price includes first class postage and handling.

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To obtain Mini-Rolltop Pattern #663, send $3.00. If you would like the larger classic-style rolltop desk plan, #571, send $3.75. Both prices include first class postage and handling.

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Stamp Design Features Symbols of The Season

When North Carolina artist Bob Timberlake was commisioned to paint a design for the U.S. Postal Service's 1980 Christmas Stamp, he was drawn to an image of antique toys as a symbol of the season.

They instantly conjure up images of children and memories of Christmases past.

"I hope the scene will remind folks of what Christmas toys used to be like," said Timberlake. "The toys that our grandparents used to receive from Santa were handmade, hand-painted and were as durable as they were beautiful"

The toys, depicted in a corner window of Timberlake's Davidson County studio, are an antique drum, circa 1817, a spinning top, circa 1820, and a tin trumpet, circa 1920.

"These toys still work today, while many of our 1980 mass-produced toys will probably fall apart before 1981 gets here."

Timberlake, the first Southerner even chosen to paint a Christmas stamp and only the second Southern artist in more than a decade to paint a U.S. stamp design of any type, said the toys are also reminders of another era.

"They are reminders of where we came from: a generation of men and women who made things for themselves and, as such, they made them to last. I also hope that they'll remind us of the 'child' which is hiding inside each and every person — whether we're eight or 88."

The stamp, which was issued on Oct. 31 in the tiny town of Christmas, Mich., went on sale in North Carolina Nov. 1.

—© U.S. Postal Service

Timberlake was honored at a special ceremony in Lexington and given the privilege of paying 15 cents for the first stamp sold in the state.

About 650 million of the stamps were printed for nationwide distribution.

What Is Christmas?

This essay by Carol Bessent Hayman of Swansboro originally appeared in her inspirational book, *What Is Christmas?* which was published in 1974. It has been reprinted by several publications since then and appears in the 1980 Christmas edition of Ideals.

Mrs. Hayman, whose writing has been published in numerous periodicals, teaches creative writing at Coastal Carolina Community College in Jacksonville.

She and her husband, Dr. Louis Hayman, are consumer-members of Carteret-Craven Electric Membership Corporation, Morehead City.

Christmas is music—the music of carols ringing out in the still night air, the organ, the chimes, and the voices of a choir singing "Silent Night, Holy Night."

Christmas is lights—the candles in our windows, the lighted trees, the eyes of children, and the starlight on a cold December night.

Christmas is welcome—the wreath on our door, and answering the doorbell with a warm greeting: "Come in, come in, and Merry Christmas."

Christmas is laughter—the laughter that starts in your toes and bubbles up, the smiles on faces everywhere, the feeling of closeness, and a wonderful secret shared with all mankind.

Christmas is fragrance—the pine and spruce smell of Christmas trees, the sugary good smell of cookies baking, the spice and raisin smell of fruitcake, the smell of furniture polish, and the cold, crisp smell of outdoors.

Christmas is giving—the present made by hand, the card chosen especially for a certain person, the gift marked from me *with* love.

Christmas is remembering—other such holidays, friends that may be far away, loved ones, those less fortunate, and those in need. Taking time to read again the words: "For God so loved the world" and, "Unto us a child is born . . ."

Christmas is love—the love that wells up in our hearts and brings tears to our eyes as we thank God for his great love.

—Wilmington Star-News Photo

A workman ranges some of the 5,000 lights which are used to decorate Wilmington's Hilton Park Christmas tree.

Wilmington's Yule Tree Selected By Youngsters

For almost three centuries, she was simply one of Mother Nature's mammoth handiworks, grandly rising from above the banks of the Northeast Cape Fear River.

As the City of Wilmington grew up around her, she came to preside over a small park —but remained largely unnoticed except for her beauty and symmetry.

But because she was especially noticed by two Wilmington youngsters in 1927, she has since become a center of Christmas season activity with the title of the "World's Largest Living Christmas Tree."

The youngsters entered her in a city-wide contest that was being conducted by Wilmington's Commissioner of Public Works James E. L. Wade to find the largest living oak tree in or near the city.

He was looking for such a tree in order to decorate it as a highlight of the city's Yuletide celebrations. He offered a $5 gold piece to the school boy or girl who identified the largest tree in the area —that was accessible to a paved street and electric power.

When two children —Betty Devine and Silas Sheets Jr.— nominated the same Hilton Park tree, Wade gave each of them a $5 gold piece.

As a result, the tree was decorated with 750 lights for its first Christmas season. The year was either 1928 or 1929 —both dates appear in records of the occasion.

The Wilmington Star described the event in these words: ". . . the glow and sparkle of the myriad varicolored lights. . . showed in brilliance against a dark background of low hanging clouds when the big switch controlling the living tree of fire was thrown on."

At that time, the tree reached a height of 55 feet with a limb spread of 110 feet.

Now, half-a-century later, the tree rises to 75 feet and its limb spread extends to 210 feet.

And it dons a yearly holiday season cape containing more than 5,000 lights, with each string fully wrapped in Spanish moss.

Workmen from the City Parks and Recreation Department spend about two weeks wrapping the strings of lights and arranging them on the tree's branches.

In recent years, the tree has traditionally been lighted nightly from the first week of December through the end of the month.

Wade, who also served as Wilmington's mayor and who died earlier this year, could never have envisioned how popular his little holiday season attraction would prove to be.

The tree was an instant hit.

By 1930, it was attracting 60,000 visitors. That same year, it began to attract national attention when a picture of it appeared in a national contest and won first place.

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Christmas Is A Time Of Giving

It's that time of year again when thoughts of turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie begin to fill our heads as we bring out all the traditional family recipes that we have enjoyed for so many years.

It just wouldn't be Christmas without them.

At *Carolina Country*, the staff culled through their family recipe files a bit early in order to share with our readers some of our traditional holiday favorites.

Since every family has its own preference for a main course which rarely changes from year to year, we have tried to select dishes that'll help you build a complete meal around the family favorite.

Christmas *is* a time of giving, and these recipes are our special gift to you for this holiday season.

Enjoy!

Pattie Harrison always looks forward to Christmas morning every year, as everyone does, but she has a special reason. It's her Pinch Me Cake which she has eaten for Christmas breakfast every year she can remember. It just wouldn't be Christmas without this delicious coffeecake, she says.

PINCH ME CAKE

1 envelope dry yeast
½ C. lukewarm water
1 tsp. sugar
1 C. milk
¼ C. sugar
¼ C. shortening
1 tsp. salt
4 C. flour
2 unbeaten eggs
¾ C. butter
1½ C. sugar
5 tsp. cinnamon
½ C. finely chopped nuts

Dissolve yeast in lukewarm water with 1 tsp. sugar. Bring milk to boiling point. Remove from heat and add ¼ C. sugar and the shortening, salt and 1½ C. flour. Mix well. Add eggs and mix in well. Let rise until double. Knead down and let rise again. Flour table and fold dough in several times. Make balls the size of walnuts. Melt butter. Combine 1½ C. sugar, cinnamon and nuts. Dip dough balls in melted butter, then in sugar and cinnamon and nut mixture. Put foil in bottom of 12" tube pan. Place dough balls around in pan. Allow to rise until ¾ full. Bake at 375° for 35 minutes. Let stand for 15 minutes before removing from pan.

For year's, this dressing recipe has been a favorite of the James M. Hubbard family. He serves as the magazine's publisher in his capacity as executive vice president of the statewide organization of Electric Membership Corporations.

The recipe, which came from Mrs. Hubbard's late mother, was never written down until several members of her family experimented with it and came up with this version.

BASIC DRESSING MIXTURE

4 C. broken corn bread
2 C. light bread toasted, broken in small parts
4 C. biscuits broken into small parts
5½ C. chicken broth
2 tsp. poultry seasoning
1 tsp. sage
1 Tbl. salt
2 eggs, slightly beaten
½ C. celery (chopped fine)
½ C. onion (chopped fine)

Mix all ingredients. Set aside for the flavors to blend. Melt ½ stick of margarine in a large roasting pan. Pour in dressing mixture. Bake at 375° for 50 min. or until golden brown (can divide mixture and put in smaller pans). Serves 12.

Carolina Homemaker

This unusual vegetable dish, which is actually called a salad, can be served as either. It comes from Milly Alford, our resident recipe and food expert. This has been a favorite of hers for a number of years, and is an excellent accompaniment for poultry or pork. It's also a perfect luncheon dish, served on lettuce and garnished with olives, chips, etc.

RICE SALAD

- 1½ cups white rice (not instant)
- ¾ cups cooked peas
- ¾ cups mayonnaise
- ¼ cup liquid from peas
- 1½ cups chopped celery
- 2½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- 1/3 cup minced onion
- 2 T. lemon juice

Cook rice in 2½ quarts boiling water. Drain. Chill rice, peas, celery, mushrooms. Combine mayonnaise, salt, pepper, lemon juice, liquid from peas and minced onion. Toss with chilled mixture.

Patty Shelley's grandmother, Mrs. J. E. Sypher of Charlotte, doesn't remember where she got this salad recipe, but she's been preparing it for Christmas dinner for years. It's colorful and light, and just perfect for a holiday meal.

GINGER ALE SALAD

- 2 Tbl. gelatin
- 4 Tbl. cold water
- ¼ C. boiling water
- ½ C. sugar
- 1 orange in sections
- 12 Maraschino cherries, cut in half
- 6 slices pineapple (cut in small chunks)
- ¼ lb. canton ginger (cut in small pieces)
- ⅛ tsp. salt
- 1 pt. ginger ale
- Juice of 1 lemon
- ½ lb. grapes, skinned

Soak gelatin in cold water, then dissolve in boiling water. Add sugar, salt, gingerale and lemon juice. Chill until nearly set and combine with fruit. Place in wet mold and chill.

Mrs. Mammy Thomas, Kemp Ward's great-grandmother who lived in Obion County, Tennessee, used to cook Scalloped Eggplant each year, and the family really looked forward to this treat. It's an easy recipe to prepare and will add a different touch to your holiday meal.

SCALLOPED EGGPLANT

- Large eggplant
- Salt
- Small onion
- Water
- Cracker crumbs
- Cup of milk
- Butter
- Cheese

Slice the eggplant and cook in saucepan with chopped onion, salt and a small amount of water until tender, then place two (or more if necessary) slices in a shallow baking dish and cover with a layer of cracker crumbs, then another pair of slices and more crumbs. Repeat until all the eggplant is used. Mix the milk with the remains in the saucepan and pour over the eggplant and crackers. Dot the top with butter and place in an oven at 375°. Once the eggplant is hot, cover with cheese and allow to remain in oven until the cheese is melted.

"I've always loved chocolate in any form and this is my all-time favorite chocolate cake," Owen Bishop says about this recipe, which has German chocolate layers and a cocoa frosting with nuts.

"Until now, there was no written recipe for it. My father-in-law, William H. Leonard of Asheboro, who's a real magician in the kitchen, just made it up several years ago. Since then, it's been a regular part of his marvelous holiday meals." Leonard is a consumer-member of Randolph Electric Membership Corporation, Asheboro.

LEONARD'S CHOCOLATE CAKE

- 1 pkg. German's Sweet Chocolate
- ½ C. boiling water
- 1 C. butter or shortening
- 2 C. sugar
- 4 egg yolks, unbeaten
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. soda
- 2½ C. flour
- 1 C. buttermilk
- 4 egg whites

Melt chocolate in the boiling water. Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add egg yolks, one at a time, beating after each. Add chocolate and vanilla. Mix together salt, soda and flour. Add alternately with buttermilk to chocolate mixture, beating well after each addition. Beat until batter is smooth. Beat egg whites until stiff peaks form. Fold into batter. Then pour into three 8- or 9-inch layer pans, greased and floured. Bake in moderate oven (325°) 35 to 40 min. Cool and frost.

FUDGE FROSTING

- 1 C. brown sugar
- ½ C. cocoa
- 1 stick margarine
- ½ C. milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- powdered sugar
- ½ C. chopped pecans

Melt margarine, add cocoa, sugar and milk and stir until sugar dissolves. Bring to a boil and cook approximately 5 minutes. Remove from heat, add vanilla, and beat in powdered sugar until frosting reaches right consistency to spread. Add nuts.

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Federal Land Bank Association — Long-Term Farm Credit

Farm Credit Service — Joint Land Bank and PCA services

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER

Nuclear Is Not North Carolina's Only Energy Option

I am writing in response to James M. Hubbard's two part commentary on energy, which appeared in the September and October issues of *Carolina Country*. I am deeply distressed by his comments on nuclear energy, and I am also troubled by the fact that pro-nuclear articles continue to dominate *Carolina Country*. I think this policy is not only unfair to the readers of our magazine, but also misrepresents the true feelings of most North Carolinians.

I am not attacking Mr. Hubbard's article as a whole, because it contains several accurate statements, such as the perceptive analysis of the causes of our present energy situation. Foremost among these causes, as Mr. Hubbard points out, is the once-cheap, now-expensive Middle East oil, the American automobile, and the American lifestyle which has been built around it.

It is a fact that automobiles in America account for most of our demand for foreign oil. Today, our automobile industry, as well as the driving habits of all Americans are undergoing drastic change as a result. However, Mr. Hubbard confuses the issue when he combines America's gasoline needs with America's electrical needs, using the resulting total in his prediction of a 30-50% increase in our energy needs.

In other words, Mr. Hubbard used the gasoline needs of America to make our electrical needs appear greater than they are, leading him to the conclusion that nuclear power is our "only other forseeable option."

Mr. Hubbard is also misleading when he uses national energy need statistics in addressing the electric cooperative consumers of North Carolina. On a national scale, nuclear power is already a working reality, not just an option, as our neighbor South Carolina amply demonstrates. Nuclear power is also a potentially dangerous reality, as the Three Mile Island accident demonstrates.

However, nuclear power is *not* the only option in North Carolina. Our state is blessed with abundant energy resources, such as wood, water, peat, coal, wind and the sun. Our state is also blessed with a rugged and self-reliant people who are willing to solve our energy problems without sacrificing the quality of our land, our water, and our air. I believe that most North Carolinians would rather work toward the imaginative development of our natural energy resources, instead of allowing the promotion of extremely dangerous nuclear power plants. I believe that North Carolina has the people and the resources to supply our electrical needs without nuclear power.

The inherent danger of nuclear fuel and waste is awesome, comparable only to the danger of nuclear weapons. Mr. Hubbard dismisses this danger with one sentence: "Safe operation of generating facilities, transportation and storage and reprocessing of this valuable energy resource can all be technically accomplished with adequate safety now." I challenge Mr. Hubbard to fill this piece of empty rhetoric with specific facts. I also challenge the editors of *Carolina Country* to print articles dealing with both sides of this issue — *pro and con*. Finally and most importantly, I challenge the people of North Carolina to become informed and to speak out on this vital issue. We *still have a choice*. Let's make an informed decision, and see that our officials carry it out. Otherwise, they will be all too willing to make the decision for us.

Anthony L. Fisher
Rt. 68, Tuckasegee

Cheer!

Glen Keever of the North Carolina Association of Educators staff passed along this holiday season tale in the association's magazine *North Carolina Education*:

Christmas is a time of good cheer, and NCAE staff members got a first-hand look at the effects last year. An old weather-beaten automobile showed up in the parking lot on the day the office closed for the Christmas break. More than a week later, it was still sitting forlornly in someone's parking space.

The staff eventually decided that it was stolen and notified the police. They checked it out, said it had not been reported stolen, and furnished the name of the registered owner whom they had been unable to contact.

It took a few days, but one member of the staff finally reached a friend of the car's owner and told him where the car was parked. His comment told all:

"I know Joe will be happy. You know the truth is he got to enjoying Christmas so much he forgot where he left his car, and he was too embarrassed to call the police."

* * *

Today, when newlyweds feather their nest, you'll usually find four parents who've been plucked.

"I reckon Gertrude's gonna be pretty much surprised this Christmas. She's sort of expecting a micro-wave oven."

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